(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The 4-laning of Delhi-Jallandhar Section is in progress. Delhi-Murthal is already 4-lane. Four laning work between Murthal and Karnal is in progress and is likely to be completed by December, 1995. Four laning work between Karnal to Ambala and then to Sirhind has been approved and is targetted to be completed by June, 1998. The work of 4-laning between Sirhind and Jallandhar has been completed recently.

Improving National Highways Network

2483. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Highways network constitutes less than two per cent of total road network but carries nearly 40% of total road traffic;

(b) if so, what steps Government are contemplating to improve the National Highways network keeping in view the future traffic expansion; and

(c) in what manner Government propose to finance massive investment required for upgrading road condition in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir. The National Highways broadly constitute 2% of the total road network in the country but carry about 40% of the road traffic.

(b) Development of National Highways including widening/strengthening etc. is a continuous process and developmental works are taken up keeping in view the traffic intensity, *inter-se* priority of works, overall availability of funds etc.

(c) Certain projects have already been taken up by way of financing under overseas loan assistance programme in various States in the high density traffic corridors. In addition, Private Sector participation in the Highway Sector on BOT (Build-Operate-Transfer) basis is being contemplated.

Development of Tuticorin Port

2484. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to develop the Tuticorin Port which was declared as a Major Port two decades ago;

(b) whether following facilities are presently available at the Tuticorin Port:

(i) Terminal capacity for transhipment of containers, and facility to handle bigger fourth generation container vessels,

(ii) Enough depth (in the approach channel) to enable vessels having more than 27 feet draught to enter the port and whether feasibility report has been submitted in this regard;

(iii) Night navigation facilities,

(c) whether the Tuticorin Port is to be declared as a Free Port; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) No exclusive Container Berths are available at Tuticorin Port. Container Vessels are handled at the existing General Cargo Berths. Transhipment Containers are handled with the help of top-lift trucks. For stacking Containers, back up area adjoining to berths and open yard are available. There are no facilities to handle bigger fourth generation Container Vessels.

(ii) No, Sir. A feasibility report for deepening of the channel and the basin has been received from the port, but no investment decision has been taken.

(iii) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

DTC Bus Services between Nauroji Nagar to Central Terminal

2485. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of DTC buses plying between Nauroji Nagar to Central Secretariat via B-Avenue, New Delhi, Number-wise and time-table-wise details;

(b) whether it is a fact that very limited number of buses are plying between the said route and Government had withdrawn the bus route No. 570;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the above bus is running very irregularly;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government have any proposal to introduce more bus services in the said route; and

(f) if so, by when, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Route No. 570 (Peak Time Service) is operating from Nauroji Nagar to Central Secretariat via B-Avenue. Three trips at 0836 hrs., 0924 hrs. and 0948 hrs. are operated from Nauroji Nagar to Central Secretariat and three trips at 1736 hrs. from Central Secretariat

to Nauroji Nagar, 1710 hrs. and 1810 hrs. from A. V. Bhawan to Nauroji Nagar.

(b) No, Sir. However, the services of route No. 570 at 1736 hrs. from Central Secretariat to Nauroji Nagar were held up during the month of October and November, 1994 due to non-availability of buses.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) Due to resource constraints, it is not possible for DTC to introduce more buses on this route at present.

---

12 Noon

The Deputy Chairman in the Chair

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

I. Reports and Accounts (1993-94) of various bodies of Railways and related papers.

II. Notifications of the Ministry of Railways.

III. Report and Accounts (1993-94) of the Railways Sports Control Board, New Delhi and related papers.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): Madam, I lay on the Table—

I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act 1956 :—

(i) (a) Eighteenth Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Railway Construction Company Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts and the Comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
Placed in Library *See* No. LT 6744/94]

(ii) (a) Twentieth Annual Report and Accounts of the Rail India Technical and Economic Services Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts and the Comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-6745/94]

(iii) (a) Sixth Annual Report and Accounts of the Container Corporation of India Limited. New Delhi, for the year 1993-94, together with the Auditors' Reports on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-6743/94]

II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Railways, under section 199 of the Railway Act, 1989 :—

(1) S. O. No. 530(E), dated the 16th July, 1994, regarding the date on which the Railways (Amendment) Act, 1994 shall come into force.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-6742/94]

(2) G. S. R. No. 592(E), dated the 22nd July, 1994, publishing the Railway Accidents (Compensation) Amendment Rules, 1994.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-6741/94]

III. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers :—

(i) Annual Report and Accounts of the Railway Sports Control Board. New Delhi, for the year 1993-94, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts.

(ii) Review by Government on the working of the above Board.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-6746/94]

I. Reports and Accounts (1993-94) of various shipping bodies, Dock Labour Boards and related papers.

II. Accounts (1993-94) of the Visakhapatnam Port Trust and related papers.

III. Notifications of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Port Wing).

IV. Notification of the Inland Waterways Authority of India.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): Madam, I lay on the Table—

I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—

(i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Ship Design and Research Centre, Visakhapatnam, for the year 1993-94, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Centre.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-6688/94]

(ii) (a) Twenty-second Annual Report and Accounts of the Cochin Shipyard Limited, Cochin, for the year 1993-94, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.